

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BELFAS 00060 221651Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /069 W

-----221730 000630 /47

R 221614Z FEB 77

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1585

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 060

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UK, EI

SUBJECT: OPPOSITION LEADER VISITS NORTHERN IRELAND

1. OPPOSITION LEADER MARGARET THATCHER VISITED BELFAST AND LONDONDERRY FEBRUARY 21. VISIT NOT RPT NOT ANNOUNCED IN ADVANCE FOR SECURITY REASONS. SHE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY SHADOW SPOKESMAN AIREY NEAVE. IN BELFAST MRS. THATCHER LUNCED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE AND ABOUT SIXTY NON-POLITICAL FIGURES AND CIVIL SERVANTS. IN BELFAST SHE WALKED IN CITY CENTER SECURITY AREA AND BOUGHT ULSTER LINEN AND GALWAY CRYSTAL AT LEADING DEPARTMENT STORE. SHE VISITED MILITARY CENTER BELFAST AND IN LONDONDERRY WAS RECEIVED BY CITY COUNCIL.

2. MRS. THATCHER BROKE NO RPT NO NEW POLITICAL GROUND. SHE REAFFIRMED CONTINUATION OF BIPARTISAN POLICY TOWARD ULSTER AND PRAISED COURAGE AND DETERMINATION OF SECURITY FORCES AND BUSINESSMEN. SHE ALSO SAID HER PARTY WAS COMMITTED TO DEFENCE OF POSITION OF PROVINCE IN UNITED KINGDOM. LOCAL POLITICIANS WERE NON-COMMITTAL ABOUT VISIT WITH ONE EXCEPTION: OFFICIAL UNIONIST JOHN TAYLOR REMARKED THAT MRS. THATCHER'S PURCHASE OF GALWAY CRYSTAL WAS EXAMPLE OF HOW MUCH TORIES HAD STILL TO LEARN ABOUT NORTHERN IRELAND.

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SPICER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** VISITS, POLITICAL LEADERS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Subject:** OPPOSITION LEADER VISITS NORTHERN IRELAND  
**TAGS:** PINT, UK, EI, (THATCHER, MARGARET)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/a247f2c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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